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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO • GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

EXPLANATION OF CODE SYMBOLS USED WITH ANNOTATIONS

- R Recommended
- Ad Additional book of acceptable quality for collections needing more material in the area.
- M Marginal book that is so slight in content or has so many weaknesses in style or format that it should be given careful consideration before purchase.
- NR Not recommended
- SpC Subject matter or treatment will tend to limit the book to specialized collections.
- SpR, A book that will have appeal for the unusual reader only. Recommended for the special few who will read it.

Except for pre-school years, reading range is given for grade rather than for age of child.

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Volume XVIII

September, 1964

Number 1

New Titles for Children and Young People

M Adelberg, Doris. Lizzie's Twins; illus. by N. M. Bodecker. Dial, 1964. 32p.
K-2 \$2.75.

A brief read-aloud story for girls, with illustrations that are sentimental and rather pleasant, but repetitive. Four lines of rhyme on each page tell the story of Lizzie and her favorite doll, Bea; Lizzie lost Bea, mourned for her, was given a new doll that looked like Bea, found Bea, and so she then had twin dolls and loved them both. A slight tale, slow-moving, in rather uneven verse; the subject, of course, will appeal to most small girls.

R Anckarsvärd, Karin. Aunt Vinnie's Victorious Six; tr. from the Swedish by An-
5-6 nabelle MacMillan; illus. by William M. Hutchinson. Harcourt, 1964. 155p.
\$2.95.

Translated from the Swedish, a sequel to Aunt Vinnie's Invasion, in which the six Hall-senius children come to live with their elderly aunt. Episodic, albeit with a sustaining theme: brotherhood—a theme that is explored with restraint and simplicity. The children and Aunt Vinnie respect each other, and the reaction of nine-year-old Per to a small child from Africa, lost and unable to understand Swedish, is not a dutiful reaction, but a true affection. Lightly humorous, perceptive in picturing relationships, this is a pleasant family story; it is also interesting in picturing contemporary Sweden—readers may be surprised, for example, at the fact that one of the television programs the children watch regularly is "The Flintstones."

R Armstrong, Richard. Trial Trip; illus. by D. G. Valentine. Criterion Books,
6-9 1963. 181p. \$3.50.

First published in Great Britain in 1962, the story of a boy of sixteen who goes to sea. Rod, an orphan who had been living with an unkind aunt, found when he shipped as galley boy on the Ludlow that an old schoolmate was an apprentice-officer. Tich urged Rod to qualify himself for the same career, and Rod was given permission to audit the classes. The galley boy was well treated by everyone on board save Stringy, the other apprentice. Boastful and cowardly, Stringy used both fair means and foul to discredit Rod; suspecting that Stringy had framed Rod and accused him of theft, Tich arranged a situation in which Stringy would be frightened into confession. In the end, Stringy not only confessed, but resigned. The plot is adequate, the writing style brisk and lively; details of shipboard life and seamanship are vivid. The one weakness of the book is in the characterization of Tich and Stringy: believable characters, but exaggerated in a style reminiscent of Dickens. On the other hand, the adult characters are all drawn with restraint and their attitudes toward the three boys are excellent.

R Ayer, Margaret. Made in Thailand; written and illus. by Margaret Ayer and

7-12 with photographs. Knopf, 1964. 243p. \$3.95.

A comprehensive and solidly written text, brightened by descriptions of colorful objects or practices, but not vividly written. The illustrations—drawings and photographs—are interesting, but could be more plentiful; for example, the chapter on weaving includes two photographs, but neither shows a finished fabric. The author's long residence in Thailand gives to the book the solid authority of informed observation; the text not only describes the arts and crafts of the country, but gives far more information about historical, cultural, economic, and religious facets of national life than is found in other books in this excellent series. A bibliography and an index are appended.

Ad Bannon, Laura May. Toby's Friends; story and pictures by Laura Bannon.

1-3 Whitman, 1963. 36p. \$2.75.

A bored small boy tells his grandfather he wishes he had someone to play with; Grandpa tries to guess who, and pretends to think that Toby has an animal in mind. When Toby says his friend can jump, Grandpa guesses the goat, then Billy says the friend doesn't have horns—he can play cowboy, so Grandpa guesses the pony, and Toby says that it isn't the pony, since this friend can dig caves. And so on. Toby sees that Grandpa is making a game of it, and so will the reader; the illustrations leave no doubt of it. There is humor in the nonsense, but it goes on too long in a repetitious pattern; useful for reading practice, but the story has no direction and the over-amplified joke palls.

M Barry, Katharina. A Bug to Hug. Harcourt, 1964. 35p. illus. Trade ed.

5-6 \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.64 net.

yrs.

Nonsense couplets provide a very slight text with mildly amusing illustrations that are slightly reminiscent of both Hilary Knight and Crockett Johnson. The text begins, "Would you like to hug a bug?" and on the facing page, "UGH!" On page three, "Or would you rather bake a cake . . ." and, page four, "and make a mistake?" Some of the concepts have the appeal of the non sequitur or of wild exaggeration, but many of the ideas and rhymes seem contrived.

R Bartos-Höppner, B. Save the Khan; tr. by Stella Humphries; illus. by Victor G. 7- Ambrus. Walck, 1964. 240p. \$4.

First published in Germany in 1961 under the title Rettet Den Grossen Khan, a sequel to The Cossacks in the sense that the locale and the historic events are sequential, although the characters are not the same. Set in Siberia at the end of the sixteenth century, the book describes the fight of the Tartar princes to halt Russian invasion. The protagonist, Daritai, is a classic character: the younger brother who is loved by his people while his scheming older brother gains the ear of their father, the Khan. Daritai meets a beautiful princess who is sister to Amanak, descendant of Genghis Khan; Amanak and Daritai, sworn blood-brothers, fight together in battles that rage over the windswept steppes. The details of period and locale are profuse, vivid, and convincing; the story has enough pace, suspense and intrigue for a trilogy.

NR Bawden, Nina. The House of Secrets; illus. by Wendy Worth. Lippincott, 1964. 5-6 190p. \$3.50.

Three English children whose mother has died come from Africa to stay with her sister in England; they find that Aunt Mabel is reserved and stern and poor. The guests in her boarding house are not ordinary: one is a huge and boisterous man, an impoverished sculptor; the other is a very old, very frail and querulous lady who takes a fancy to the youngest child. She turns out to be very rich and gives her fortune to little Ben. Aunt Mabel thaws in every direction. The orphaned waif next door is helped to a home and to a benefactor who will sponsor her musical talent. Father

appears, having recovered from amnesia. The writing style isn't bad, but the plot is absurdly contrived and the adult characters are quite stereotyped.

NR Beatty, Jerome. The Clambake Mutiny; An Undersea Story; illus. by Tomi
4-5 Ungerer. Scott, 1964. 68p. \$3.50.

Young Daniel Lobster knew all about the trap that caught people; he knew that small lobsters were, for no apparent reason, returned. Therefore he decided to rescue his uncle, and—leaving a note for his mother—he went into the trap. Up above, he found his uncle; he and many others were taken to a beach by a number of large white animals with no feelers. Horrified by the fact that they were to be eaten, Daniel led the lobsters away from the clambake and back to the sea. Some of the latent concepts of the story and much of the vocabulary are too sophisticated for small children; the independent reader who can understand both may find the subject of the story too juvenile. There is a modicum of humor in the writing, but much of it is adult humor.

Ad Beresford, Elisabeth. Two Gold Dolphins; illus. by Janina Domanska. Bobbs-
5-6 Merrill, 1964. 148p. \$3.50.

Not unusual in plot, but smoothly written, a fantasy in which three children make several trips backward in time. John, Penny, and Edward are accompanied by the Lesser Dolphin as they search for the Greater Gold Dolphin who can help them find the long-lost family treasure. All problems are solved when the Greater Gold Dolphin is found and grants the children their prescribed three wishes. The story has a pleasant writing style, with good dialogue, imaginative detail, slight characterizations, and a plot that has more strength in the episodes than it does in the whole.

M Beyer, Audrey White. Katharine Leslie; illus. by Polly Bolian. Knopf, 1963.
7-9 277p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.19 net.

A patterned junior novel for girls, interesting in part in the presentation of the attitude of the American Tory who was a good and conscientious man. Escaping from Newgate Prison with the help of a man she had met en route there, sixteen-year-old Katharine goes to colonial Maine. While a governess in England, Katharine had been wrongfully accused of stealing from her wealthy employer; her innocence is, before the story ends, established. In Maine Katharine wins the love and respect of the Tory gentleman whose loving little daughter is her pupil, but she refuses him. She has come to love the young doctor who helped her gain her freedom and who has decided that he must join the Patriot army. Formula plot, and to a large extent, formula characters.

Ad Bishop, Claire Huchet. Twenty-Two Bears; illus. by Kurt Wiese. Viking, 1964.
4-6 31p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.62 net.
yrs.

Bears cumulate, amusingly illustrated, in a pleasant but rather attenuated story with a sentimental ending directed to the loving owners of toy bears. One, two, three, four . . . maybe more bears (all named) but—the refrain—"But twenty-two bears, that is a lot of bears!" "Maybe twelve bears—Papa Bear, Mama Bear, Baby Bear, Bruno Bear . . . Great Uncle Barnaby Bear, and Grandnanny Bear's sister . . . And that's a big family. But twenty-two bears, that is a lot of bears!" The twenty-one named bears finally give a party for YOUR bear, who refuses their invitation to stay with them because he cannot bear to go to sleep with anyone else except Someone Special that he loves. (You). The cataloging of bears seems just a bit too long, but it has the repetition and the refrain that small children enjoy; the story also has a few very simple and comprehensible puns that should appeal. The plot does, however, divide into two parts rather obtrusively.

Ad Bonnell, Dorothy. She Wore a Star. Messner, 1964. 191p. \$2.95.
7-9

A career-cum-cause junior novel with an interesting background; Amy Bennett works for the American Friends Service Committee in Calcutta before and during the advent of independence and of the separation of India and Pakistan. Amy, who has arrived with lofty goals and a few misconceptions, learns to know her limitations and those of the Quaker group; she falls in love, and she adjusts to the realities of a situation of conflict and to an acceptance of cultural differences. A highly motivated and an adequately written book, but weakened by the incorporation of such people as Gandhi and Nehru; as historical background they lend credence, but as actual characters drawn into the action they are out of focus, too large for the dimensions of the story.

R Brock, Emma Lillian. Mary's Camera; written and illus. by Emma L. Brock.
3-5 Knopf, 1963. 82p. \$2.95.

A sequel to Mary's Secret; enchanted by the results that her uncle, an enthusiastic photographer, has with his pictures, Mary decides she must save money and buy a camera. She uses several roles of film before her pictures are satisfactory; by that time she has learned to be careful about handling a camera and about getting her subject in focus. The theme of the story, the length and the simple style, and the realistic small mishaps Mary has are all perfectly suited to the level of the audience. The writing has a light humor, and the relationships between harum-scarum Mary and her cautious friend Mildred, and between Mary and her patient parents are quite true to life.

R Burlingame, Roger. Out of Silence into Sound; The Life of Alexander Graham
6-10 Bell. Macmillan, 1964. 146p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$3.07 net.

A fine biography of Bell, unusual in two respects: first, the author gives a great deal of ancillary but relevant material about the background of the times and, second, he stresses the importance of much of the lesser-known work of the inventor and especially of the lasting contribution Bell made to the education of the deaf. A bibliography and an index, both rather extensive, are appended.

M Butts, David P. Vanilla; by David P. Butts and Addison E. Lee; illus. by Joe
4-6 Nerlinger. Steck, 1964. 47p. \$2.

A book that describes the domestication of wild vanilla and the manufacturing of vanilla flavoring, including the development of the synthetic product. The text gives information, but seems over-extended, with—for example—a small excursion into the history of the Cortes expedition, whereas the fact that the first vanilla pod was introduced by Cortes into Europe is the only relevant information. The text also is weakened by a patronizing note: "This is the story of your soda or ice cream cone or cake. This is the story of VANILLA!" or, "Did you ever imagine that the bottle of vanilla on your mother's shelf or your vanilla ice cream cone or soda had such an interesting history?"

NR Cass, Joan. Blossom Finds a Home; pictures by William Stobbs. Abelard-
K-2 Schuman, 1964. 40p. \$2.95.

A picture book about a rejected kitten, with most of the feline characters that appeared in the author's previous books. Now the cats of River View Road, horrified at the unmaternal behavior of Circus Annie, suspect that she may have abandoned one of her three kittens. They discover little Blossom mewing pitifully, indeed abandoned, and they plant her on the doorstep of a new local resident. Mr. Macallister, a bachelor, takes Blossom in immediately: a happy man-meets-cat ending. Lively but distracting illustrations, and a slight plot with no positive aspects save the kindness to an animal.

M Chase, Mary Ellen. Richard Mansfield; The Prince of Donkeys; illus. by Paul Kennedy. Norton, 1964. 65p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.88 net.

The author reminisces about a family pet. Although there is some appeal in the details of period and locale (a Maine village, a half-century ago), the story is written in a style better suited to the adult reader than to the young audience for whom the subject has most interest. The book has humor, but even the humor is flavored with an aura of sentiment: "Much as he preferred the solitude of his pasture where he could browse at will, drink from his brook, and think his own comforting thoughts, he clearly recognized that life holds its trials and burdens for us all—with only the hopeful chance of a carrot or two to help matters along."

M Clark, Margaret Goff. Mystery of the Marble Zoo; illus. by Charles Beck. 6-9 Funk and Wagnalls, 1964. 121p. \$2.95.

Jill, fourteen, and her older sister are deputized by their parents to go through the contents of a house they have inherited and plan to sell. With the house is a barn-studio, the owner having been a sculptor. Just before dying, Uncle Leon had told Jill that there was a fortune somewhere . . . a sentence he never finished. Jill and her friend Steve become dangerously involved with a mysterious prowler, solve the mystery, and find the treasure. The atmosphere of the studio and the details of a sculptor's work are well done, but the characterization is superficial and the plot elaborate: Jill is trapped by the culprit in a cellar filled with the hidden treasure when she discovers a concealed elevator.

R Colwell, Eileen, comp. A Storyteller's Choice; a selection of stories, with 4-7 notes on how to tell them; with drawings by Carol Barker. Walck, 1964. 223p. \$4.50.

Twenty stories selected by a London librarian; a fine book insofar as the literary quality and the variety of selections are concerned, but unfortunately printed in quite small type. Miss Colwell has appended some valuable comments on the art of storytelling, and she gives some useful comments on each story, with suggestions for the appropriate audience-age and with notes on how long it takes to tell each tale. Designed especially as a source for storytelling, but excellent for independent reading or for reading aloud.

M Crump, Fred. Marigold and the Dragon; written and illus. by Fred Crump. K-2 Steck, 1964. 48p. \$2.50.

A read-aloud story about a small princess and a friendly dragon; the overly-busy illustrations are of comic-strip calibre. Marigold was a lonely child, and—disobeying parental injunction—went alone to visit the dragon that was kept to guard the Royal Treasury. He told her that he was a handsome Prince in disguise, but when she had accumulated the ingredients for the magic potion that would change him, the dragon confessed that he had fibbed. He was lonely, too, and wanted to keep her as a friend. And so they lived happily ever after. There is some humor in the twist of plot, but the writing style is pedestrian.

M Curcija-Prodanovic, Nada. Ballerina; illus. by Dusan Ristic. Criterion Books, 7-9 1964. 255p. \$3.95.

A long junior novel about a student at the State Ballet School of Yugoslavia. Quiet and shy, Lana finds it difficult to make friends with the older students, partly because some of the girls are jealous of her prowess. The story carries Lana and the other pupils through a year of school, a vacation, and the rigors of final exams. For Lana, an added and serious problem: she loses the toes of her right foot in an accident and believes she will never dance again. She not only dances, she is accepted by the National Theatre. The book has enough ballet to fascinate a ballet student or a balletomane, but it is overstuffed with ancillary incidents; it has a plethora of characters

and lack of balance between exposition and dialogue: in some places, long conversations among a large group, in others, long descriptive passages.

Ad Davenport, Gwen, ed. Great Loves in Legend and Life. Watts, 1964. 180p.
7-10 \$4.95.

Thirty-odd great love stories are retold in competent fashion, albeit briefly. A minor portion of the stories are from legend or literature, many are from the Bible, the greater part are historical. The inclusion of fictional material with the biographical seems to make the book less unified and therefore less effective.

R Davis, Burke. Appomattox; Closing Struggle of the Civil War; ed. by Walter
7-10 Lord; illus. with 29 Civil War photographs and drawings. Harper, 1963.
167p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

A competent and meticulously detailed account of the last few days of the Civil War, of the meeting of Grant and Lee, and of the last review, the signing of the peace settlement, and the reception of the news in Washington. The book gets off to a slow start, moving from the McLean farmhouse on April 9 and going back to a brief survey of background events and the progress of the war to that date. The rest of the book is intensely moving and often dramatic; well-researched, well-written, with excellent maps and reproductions of old photographs. Lists of dates and of important personages, a bibliography, and an index are appended.

Ad Dietz, Lew. The Savage Summer; illus. by Denny Winters. Little, 1964. 177p.
7-10 \$3.95.

Jason Trask and his cousin Hardy have a penchant for trouble, complicated family problems, and a united front against girls. They agree to be nice to a fifteen-year-old summer visitor—for pay. Jessica, however, turns out to be a tomboy, with no pretenses and no wiles; it takes both boys all summer to realize that they're smitten, and Jessica also matures, finding for the first time that she's glad she's a girl. Meanwhile older siblings have love affairs, the three friends help rescue a delinquent Indian, and Jessica retrieves the father she has long thought dead. The characters are far from stereotyped—a bit too far, since most of them seem exaggerated. Jessica's aunt is impossibly arrogant, Hardy's mother is improbably absent-minded, the Indian is a bit too stupid to be true. However, the exaggeration is palatable because of the general tone of lightly sophisticated, daft humor. A very amusing book. The title is possibly misleading and certainly gives no indication of the tenor of the story.

R Duggan, Alfred. The Romans; illus. by Richard M. Powers. World, 1964. 125p.
7- \$3.50.

Certainly one of the best volumes in the fine series of books on major world cultures. Mr. Duggan writes with his invariable ease and vivacity, combining a familiar and authoritative subject knowledge and a style that has dignity without a trace of pomposity. The book is particularly impressive in covering the major events and personalities of centuries, while giving at the same time mood, atmosphere, and anecdotal details that make the Roman people seem immediate and real. A chronological chart of some length, a bibliography, and an index are appended.

Ad Emery, Anne. A Spy in Old Detroit; illus. by H. B. Vestal. Rand McNally, 1963.
5-7 206p. \$3.95.

An adventure story with authentic historical detail, based on the siege of Pontiac in 1763. Paul Girard, fifteen, feels torn between his conflicting emotions about the rights of the French, the English, and the Indians. His older brother goes to live with the Indians; Paul decides that the British rather than the French are in the right and he becomes a spy for them. The book has many exciting episodes, characterization is adequate, and the author's broad and objective viewpoint is admirable. The weakness of

the book is a slight but pervasive one: it has a diffusion that probably is due to the fact that the story does not quite focus either on an individual or on the historical situation.

M Engelbrektson, Sune. Gravity at Work and Play; with pictures by Eric Carle. 2-3 Holt, 1963. 24p. \$1.95.

An introduction to the topic, intended to stimulate the child's pondering rather than to be a full explanation. The illustrations are decorative rather than informative; the text is slight, lucid as far as it goes, rather repetitive in examples used: that is, the text states that it is harder to bicycle up a hill than down, and it later points out that while gravity pulls you down, pulling yourself up on a chinning bar is hard work.

R Epstein, Samuel. Hurricane Guest; by Sam and Beryl Epstein; illus. by Mari-4-5 lyn Miller. Random House, 1964. 57p. (Easy to Read Books). \$1.95.

A very good story for the middle grades: good length, good story-line, especially good dialogue, and realistic treatment of two unusual events. The reaction of a family to a hurricane, and the reaction of children to a child visitor are skilfully depicted. The two Davis children are excited at the prospect of a visit from Mike's English pen-pal, but they find him a bit odd when he arrives, and it takes the excitement of the hurricane to break down the barriers of difference, although it is clear that the rapport would have been established anyway, albeit more slowly.

Ad Epstein, Samuel. Spring Holidays; by Sam and Beryl Epstein; illus. by Ted 3-5 Schroeder. Garrard, 1964. 64p. Trade ed. \$2.60; Library ed. \$1.95 net.

Although containing many bits and pieces of information, this is a book for which there seems only limited use, since it compiles in somewhat random fashion facts about some holidays in the United States ("May Day in America" deals with the United States, not all of America) for the most part, but in some sections gives a few facts about other countries. The holidays covered are Groundhog Day, Arbor Day, Audubon Day, May Day, April Fools' Day, and the First Day of Spring. Memorial Day and Easter are not included. Some of the lesser-known customs or variants are interesting, but the book is not well-organized or comprehensive.

M Faber, Doris. The Life of Pocahontas; illus. by Elinor Jaeger. Prentice-Hall, 3-5 1963. 72p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.84 net.

A rather pedestrian biography, awkwardly fictionalized; the account begins with Pocahontas, age twelve, saving John Smith from sentenced death. The writing is often florid: John Smith speaks "in a deep voice, almost like a god's." or, "Pocahontas was so happy to be with her new friends that she suddenly turned a few cartwheels and danced around on her hands." There also seems room for doubt as to the accuracy of the statement that Pocahontas "liked to dream of a handsome young pale man whom she might meet and marry someday."

R Fanning, Leonard M. Titans of Business. Lippincott, 1964. 240p. illus. \$4.95. 8-10

Seven biographies of men who were instrumental in shaping the industrial life of the United States: Hamilton, Morgan, Rockefeller, Gompers, Ford, Lewis, and Sloan. An interesting and balanced selection of subjects, a writing style that is straightforward and easy, and an objective tone combine to make a most interesting book. The apparently random choice of biographees is explained by Mr. Fanning's thesis that in the business history of our country the growth of Big Business and of Big Labor (as exemplified by the men described) has led to a new situation in our national life: the change from leadership by single men to group functioning. An index is appended.

R Flory, Jane. Clancy's Glorious Fourth; written and illus. by Jane Flory.
4-6 Houghton, 1964. 168p. \$3.

A trio of fifth-grade boys is given notice that their propensity for innocently creating havoc will not be tolerated in sixth grade. Clancy and his friends are on informal summer probation and are determined to behave well, but it is hard, very hard. Very hard not to tease girls, very hard to plan a smashing entry in the Fourth of July program that won't be hazardous. They make their goal by turning a house-front into a huge, candle-decorated cake. Although the boy-girl antagonism seems overly-stressed, this is saved from cuteness by being handled with light humor. A delightful facet of the story is the relationship between Clancy and his great-grandmother, with whom he is spending the summer: Grandma is a wise, lively, and lovable character.

M Fournier, Catharine, ad. The Coconut Thieves; illus. by Janina Domanska.
3-4 Scribner, 1964. 28p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.12 net.

An adaptation of an African folk tale with stylized and rather sophisticated illustrations. The dog and the turtle were twice caught taking coconuts from the grove that the leopard claimed was his. Both times they escaped, their ultimate deliverance achieved by some sage advice from a snake. The style is rather heavy and the story slow-paced.

Ad Freeman, Don. The Turtle and the Dove; story and pictures by Don Freeman.
K-2 Viking, 1964. 44p. \$2.50.

A slight, gentle story, gently illustrated in quiet black, white, and blue. A weary dove lighted on a turtle's back and they had a friendly talk; they separated when a storm came up, and only met again much later when they had both mated and raised families. They told their families about their meeting, and after that they went for a moonlight cruise every night, each turtle carrying a dove. Pleasant though the tale is, it is static in mood and without momentum.

Ad Gasser, Henry. Henry Gasser's Guide to Painting; photographs by Frank Patterson. Golden Press, 1964. 160p. (Golden Handbooks). \$2.99.

A very useful book, with clear instructions, explicit diagrams, and excellent color reproduction. The author discusses equipment and procedures, techniques in the use of oil, watercolor, and casein, and gives step-by-step instruction for sketching, blocking out, under-painting, etcetera. The material is treated in short topics, with numbered sets of demonstration-paintings to illustrate the text. Helpful as the information is, the use of technical terms and the fact that some of the material depends on visual interpretation (for example, a "very fluid" wash is compared to "fairly fluid" and "semi-moist" washes) means that the book would be best used to augment personal instruction.

R Goudey, Alice E. Butterfly Time; illus. by Adrienne Adams. Scribner, 1964.
K-2 27p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.12 net.

An excellent first book about butterflies; the read-aloud text is written with simplicity, yet it has a pleasing flow. The fact that the author limits her descriptions to common varieties, and the fact that the illustrations—quite lovely—are detailed enough to use for identification make the book just right for a young audience. The full-page, full-color drawings are beautifully composed. A handsome book, useful for first units in nature study and perfect for home collections.

M Gregor, Arthur Stephen. A Short History of Science; Man's Conquest of Nature
6-9 from Ancient Times to the Atomic Age; illus. by Tom Funk. Macmillan, 1963. 229p. Trade ed. \$4.95; Library ed. \$5.22 net.

A breezy, rather rambling text that would serve adequately as an overview were it comprehensive or were it limited to (and comprehensive in) some of the sciences.

As it is, the book does not serve well save as browsing material, and at the level at which it is written, it does not provide the amount of information in any one area that a reader might require. The information it does give is accurate, although some of the explanations of theories could be more explicit. The most serious weakness of the text seems to be in the omissions: in the field of medical history, for example, the index does not list Galen or Vesalius—nor does it cite genetics, Mendel, or DNA. The index is extensive, but the length is not indicative of the calibre of indexing, since—for example—there is a listing for Aswan, but the two entries there refer to one anecdote in which Aswan was used as a measuring point by Archimedes, a comparatively unimportant fact.

M Hamilton, Mollie. The Animals' Vacation; A Fable in Which Some Animals
K-2 Take a Vacation and Discover Some Things About Themselves; written and
illus. by Mollie Hamilton. New York Graphic Society, 1964. 42p. \$3.50.
A rhyming read-aloud story that teaches A Lesson; the illustrations are not very attractive, and the text is slight but amusing, the humor being fairly obvious and occasionally contrived. An assortment of animals is presented, each of which wishes to create an image other than his usual one. They all go on a vacation together, enacting their new roles, and are soon bored. They revert to type (the simple summations in two-line rhymes are easy for small children to remember), and the moral is stated: "Now our book is at an end You may put it on the shelf; Just remember this, my friend: It is best to be yourself."

R Hearn, Lafcadio. The Wave; ad. from Lafcadio Hearn's Gleanings in Buddha-
3-5 Fields by Margaret Hodges; illus. by Blair Lent. Houghton, 1964. 45p.
Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.07 net.

A retelling of a Japanese folk tale, very handsomely illustrated in sophisticated style; the format of the book is dignified and attractive. The writing style is pleasantly simple and sturdy, although the very ending is vaguely weak. Living high on the mountain-side, an old man who knows the way in which a tidal wave functions uses that knowledge to save the people in the village below. He sets fire to his own rice fields—sacrificing all his wealth—so that the villagers will hurry up the mountain; they do, and they are therefore safe when the wave demolishes their homes.

Ad Hicks, Clifford B. Alvin's Secret Code; illus. by Bill Sokol. Holt, 1963. 159p.
4-6 Trade ed. \$3.; Library ed. \$3.07 net.

A sequel to The Marvelous Adventures of Alvin Fernald; now the Magnificent Brain becomes interested in codes and ciphers. From a former spy, Alvin actually learns a good deal about cryptography; indeed, he and his chum help trap a mysterious stranger and find a lost treasure because the clue is coded. The fact that the treasure belongs to a charming visitor who needs it only to maintain an orphanage would be saccharine, were it not for the fact that it is periodically evident that the author's tongue is firmly in his cheek. The illustrations are quite unattractive; an appendix that explains some codes and ciphers in detail should fascinate puzzle-prone readers.

R Holland, Marion. Casey Jones Rides Vanity; illus. by Marion and Rebecca
4-6 Holland. Little, 1964. 194p. \$3.95.

Katherine Corinne didn't fit, but "Casey" was just the right name for a girl who preferred a riding habit to a dress. Even her riding habit didn't look right, Casey had grown so much; she finally realized she'd even outgrown her pony. When an older girl was hurt during a horse show, Casey took home with her the girl's horse, Vanity. By the time Vanity's owner was well, Casey was devoted to the beautiful mare; her most ardent wish was granted when she was given Vanity. The ending is a bit pat, but not unbelievable; the rest of the story is realistic, smoothly written, and well balanced, since the story has several mild sub-plots, nicely handled, with especially good familial relationships.

- R Horizon Magazine. Marco Polo's Adventures in China; by the editors of Horizon Magazine; narr. by Milton Rugoff; in consultation with L. Carrington Goodrich; illus. with paintings, maps, and illuminations, many of the period. American Heritage, 1964. 153p. (Horizon Caravel Books). Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.79 net.

A competently written account of the dramatic travels of the Polo family; the restrained prose sets off admirably the exotic and romantic facts. The book gives very good background material about the Mongol empire and about the known world of the thirteenth century. Illustrations in this volume are reproductions of Oriental and Occidental scenes, or artifacts, or maps not necessarily associated with Marco Polo but typical of the period or of places; there are many examples of Venetian art, for example. A brief bibliography and an index are appended.

- R Horizon Magazine. Shakespeare's England; by the editors of Horizon Magazine; in consultation with Louis B. Wright; illus. with paintings, drawings, and engravings of the period. American Heritage, 1964. 153p. (Horizon Caravel Books). Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.79 net.

A book that should enthrall the student of English history as much as it does the reader interested in theatre. The illustrations are handsome, varied, and carefully placed and captioned. The text is well-organized, giving full background on the state of drama in England and on the London to which Shakespeare came; it gives, especially, interesting material about touring companies, patronage, literary criticism, and the intrigue and competition in the world of Elizabethan actors and playwrights. The descriptions of the theatres, of the life of the actor, of the role of the playwright and—in greatest detail—of Shakespeare's work are informed and lively. The final chapter describes the death of Shakespeare and the publication of the first folio, and discusses the ways in which the writer has been memorialized; photographs of the several memorial theatres are included. A bibliography, an index, and a list of plays—arranged by original performance date—are appended.

- Ad Howard, Robert West. The Wagonmen. Putnam, 1964. 220p. illus. Trade ed. 6-9 \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.29 net.

A useful book that contains a great deal of very specific information but seems handicapped by the fact that much of the material is peripheral or even extraneous. The author gives some background about European wagons, about roads and communication in the early days of this country, and about cattlemen and the use of oxen. The text covers the history of wagons from the Conestoga wagon to the horseless carriage, a history that is authoritative but over-written. A glossary, chronology, bibliography, and an index are appended.

- R Huether, Anne. Glass and Man; line drawings by the author. Lippincott, 1963. 8- 224p. \$4.50.

An excellent book on the history of glass-making; detailed, authoritative, and written in a straightforward but not arid style. Illustrations are profuse and very good, although a number of plates are referred to on succeeding pages, so that the reader must turn back to them. After an introductory chapter that explains the forms of glass in nature, the nature of glass itself, and the materials used in man-made glass, the text reviews glassmaking from the time of the pre-dynastic Egyptians to the twentieth century. Most of the book discusses the use of glass in art, with changes in technique and styles as they developed. In the last chapters there is, of course, an increasing emphasis on glass in industrial products. A glossary and a very good relative index are appended.

- R Hutterer, Franz. New Friends in Shepherd's Meadow; tr. from the German by 3-5 Joyce Emerson; illus. by Irene Schreiber. Lothrop, 1963. 143p. \$2.95.

First published in Germany in 1960 under the title Die Kinder von der Schäferwiese, and nicely translated, the story of a family's move to a new home. Nine, seven, and four—Peter, Elisabeth, and Martin have mixed feelings about moving into an apartment in a Stuttgart housing development, even if they are going to have a real bathroom at last. The children find that new sights and new friends quickly compensate them for the lost familiarity of their old home. The incidents are realistic: the small events that loom large in children's lives are described with a light and lively simplicity. A good story about making friends and adaptability, with excellent familial relationships.

R Ik, Kim Yong. Blue in the Seed; illus. by Artur Marokvia. Little, 1964. 117p. 4-6 \$3.95.

The story of a Korean boy who learned to accept the fact that he was different; teased by other children because he had blue eyes, Chun Bok ran away—he literally ran away after he had for a long time been in emotional hiding. Why, why, why was he different? His mother couldn't explain; she only knew that in her family there was "blue in the seed." Chun Bok, by retreating, brought upon himself the very scorn he dreaded. When he was in a tense situation and in need of help, he found that the schoolmates he had thought his enemies were supporting him; his sense of values changed and this helped him to see that his "difference" was a superficial thing. Written with sensitivity and candor; the background is interesting, the characterization good, and the storyline deftly constructed.

Ad Ish-Kishor, Sulamith. A Boy of Old Prague; drawings by Ben Shahn. Pantheon 5-7 Books, 1963. 91p. \$3.95.

A story of feudal times, set in part on an estate outside of Prague and in part in the Prague ghetto. Tomas describes the home of his peasant family under the harsh rule of a great Bohemian lord. Ignorant, superstitious, devout, and fearful, the boy goes to his new master, a Jew. Slowly Tomas learns how many misconceptions he had had; slowly he becomes fond of the Jewish family. The plot is incidental to the situation; the characters are slightly stereotyped, the most effective aspect of the book being the change in Tomas and his attitude. It is a convincing picture of prejudice and the lessening of prejudice by exposure—all the more convincing because nothing is changed save one person's attitude; the story is, however, neither surprising nor exciting in development and it is written in a fairly tepid style. The illustrations are handsome in themselves but—with a few notable exceptions—they do not really illustrate the events of the story nor do they seem to express its mood.

NR Jackson, Richard. Douglas Saves the Day; pictures by Beverly Komoda. Mac-K-2 millan, 1964. 27p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$3.24 net.

A picture-book with slight text and pedestrian illustrations. Douglas Rabbit asks what he can do on a rainy day; his mother suggests that he make something with paper and tape. Nonny, Albert, and Smidgen Rabbit join with brother Douglas, and they make two large paper dragons. The rain stops, they go out to play, and they—with their dragons—take part in a parade.

Ad Jackson, Caary Paul. Pee Wee Cook of the Midget League; illus. by Frank 4-6 Kramer. Hastings House, 1964. 121p. \$2.95.

Small for his age, Leonard Cook didn't like being called "Pee Wee," but the name stuck; as the Midget League season went on Pee Wee proved his ability as a short-stop and as a batter—and he found that he didn't mind his nickname. Save for one incident in which a game is played involving donkeys, there is nothing in the book but baseball. The change in Pee Wee's feelings seems simply a vehicle for play-by-play descriptions of games. Good baseball writing, however, and the book has a useful appendage: a list of tips for each position, the outfield being treated as one.

Ad Jarrell, Randall. The Gingerbread Rabbit; pictures by Garth Williams. Macmillan, 1964. 55p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.94 net.

An attractively illustrated read-aloud story. Mary's mother lovingly prepared to bake a large gingerbread rabbit as an after-school surprise; while she left the kitchen the rabbit came to life. He ran away, had a narrow escape from a fox, and was adopted by a rabbit couple. Mary's mother made her child a stuffed cloth rabbit. Around this simple plot is built a fanciful story that is written with tongue-in-cheek humor and a light, sophisticated writing style.

R Jeffries, Roderic. Against Time! Harper, 1964. 151p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

An unusually good mystery story, neatly constructed and nicely unified. Characterization is good, and the writing has pace and humor; the role of the adolescent protagonist is notable but not incredible. The whole tenor of the description of the detective process stresses the realistic cumulation of facts that are then intelligently analyzed—rather than wild hunches, derring-do, and cliffhanging. The son of an English detective is kidnapped: object, to force the father into false testimony at a trial of a man accused of murder.

M Johnston, Norma. The Wider Heart. Funk and Wagnalls, 1964. 243p. \$3.25. 7-9

When her father dies, Gillian feels responsible for her always-protected mother; she and Mimsy decide to open a shop in the old family home in a small town. The problems of making friends, adjusting to a new school, and keeping spendthrift Mimsy and the shop under control are aggravating; Gillian is further disturbed when jewelry is stolen from the store. She becomes involved in a tense and complicated situation in which the rejected girl who stole the pin is dating the boyfriend of a rival who engineered the theft. Same boyfriend is rejected by Gillian for the worthy brother of the girl next door. The book has some good developmental values in the handling of the theft, of Gillian's attitude toward the culprit, and of the problem of the individual's responsibility to his community; the characters, however, are quite stereotypical and the situations written to formula.

Ad Kay, Helen. The Secrets of the Dolphin. Macmillan, 1964. 120p. illus. Trade 5-7 ed. \$3.; Library ed. \$3.50 net.

A good book on an interesting subject, the text being fairly evenly divided between anecdotal or legendary material and factual material. The latter gives the same information found in Lauber's The Friendly Dolphins (Random House, 1963), in which the facts are more succinctly presented. However, the large amount of anecdotal material, much of it detailed or fictionalized, may appeal to some readers. The factual part of the text covers physiology, reproduction, the capture and training of porpoises, and the fascinating research on sonar and on communication; the book seems a bit padded with tales. A bibliography and an index are appended.

Ad Kellogg, Jean. The Rod and the Rose. Reilly and Lee, 1964. 171p. \$3.50. 6-9

An adventure story with a convincing historical background; the characterization is not invariably as convincing, and the plot—although no one incident is unbelievable—seems a bit drawn out. Left in Carthage as a hostage, Hamilcar (son of Hannibal) escapes from the tyrant Haedrus; his companions are a Spartan girl and an Athenian lad, and they all are rescued and convoyed through Italy by a merchant who trains them as an acrobatic troupe. The story provides a fictional answer to the historical question of the disappearance of Hamilcar. Good atmosphere and period details, and a plot that has some exciting incidents and some that seem contrived.

Ad Kidwell, Carl. The Angry Earth; written and illus. by Carl Kidwell. Viking, 7-9 1964. 224p. \$3.50.

A story of ancient Mexico, with good characterization, well-sustained plot, and excellent color in cultural details; the book is adequate in writing style save for the dialogue, which is consistently and obtrusively modern. Blackwing, a boy of fifteen, is captured and sold in a slave market when his village is ravaged by an ancient enemy tribe. He is treated kindly by his owner and becomes almost a member of the family, yet Blackwing longs always for escape. He is embarked on his long-planned flight to freedom when an earthquake creates havoc; he knows that his owner needs help, and he realizes that he has come to identify with his family and cannot leave. One of the most interesting facets of the story is in Blackwing's friendship with a cheerful young man who was the first to befriend him in captivity; when Talkingfrog finally tells Blackwing that he is a member of the hated enemy tribe, the revelation stuns the boy, and he is aware for the first time that he has been operating on a basis of prejudice.

NR Kohn, Bernice. Everything Has a Shape; illus. by Alik. Prentice-Hall, 1964. K-2 32p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.84 net.

NR Kohn, Bernice. Everything Has a Size; illus. by Alik. Prentice-Hall, 1964. K-2 32p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.84 net.

Two small books, with illustrations that are attractive but that are often susceptible to confusion; this rather serious flaw in books intended to clarify the concepts of shape and of size is even more true of the text. In both books, there is some value in the idea that there is variety and that differences and similarities sometimes emerge after close scrutiny. The confusing element, however, outweighs the value of suggesting perceptual awareness. For example, "Sometimes, things we think of as big come in small sizes, and things we think of as small come in big sizes." Shown on facing pages are a boy and a girl who are the same size. The boy is holding a string that is attached to a balloon that is approximately a tenth the size of his head; the girl is eating a triple-dip ice cream cone in which each scoop is almost the size of her head.

Ad Kumin, Maxine W. The Beach Before Breakfast; illus. by Leonard Weisgard. K-2 Putnam, 1964. 47p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.29 net.

In a beautifully illustrated picture book, an adult friend addresses himself to a small companion on an early morning walk along the shore. In text and in illustrations there is information (how to find oysters, how to dig for razor clams) and the atmosphere of the quiet early hour at the beach is nicely evoked. The story is fairly static, however, and the form of address seems artificial: "You have the short scratcher. You squat and peer, watching for squirt holes. Yes, you know what to do. You remember the things that I taught you last summer."

R Levine, Rhoda. Harrison Loved His Umbrella; illus. by Karla Kuskin. Atheneum, 1964. 42p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.07 net.

Harrison kept his open umbrella with him, indoors and out; having one hand occupied put severe limitations on what Harrison could do. His parents worried; when all the other children copied Harrison, all the parents worried. They tried a day of silence—no effect. They tried new toys—no effect. They pleaded loneliness—the children were unmoved. Then Harrison appeared without his umbrella; he had a yo-yo and, after that he carried it all the time. Indoors and out. Quiet and sophisticated style, bland nonsense humor, and a sly message to the blanket-carrying contingent.

R Life Magazine. Canada; by Brian Moore and the editors of Life. Time, 1963. 8-160p. illus. \$2.95.

An excellent survey of Canada's history and of the Canadian scene today—analytical,

objective, comprehensive, and written in crisp, straightforward style. The photographs are handsome and informative; chapters of text alternate with sections of well-captioned illustrations, a format that is just slightly disruptive for the reader. Mr. Moore has done an especially good job in the sections that deal with the cultural resurgence in Canadian life and with the problems that have arisen since Canada has assumed a growing international importance—such problems as nuclear warfare and relationship to the Common Market. Political and relief maps are included; an index, a bibliography, and several lists of statistical and historical facts are appended.

R Life Magazine. Ecology; by Peter Farb and the editors of Life. Time, 1964. 8-192p. illus. \$3.95.

Marvelously illustrated by photographs in color and in black and white, and by precise drawings and diagrams, a fine book on ecology. The writing is solid—saved from stolidity by the subject-matter itself—and the material very well organized. A section of maps and notes on major biomes of the world are appended, as are a bibliography and a relative index.

R Life Magazine. The Low Countries; by Eugene Rachlis and the editors of Life. Time, 1963. 160p. illus. \$2.95.

Mr. Rachlis writes more than competently; his prose is lively and his sense of humor, used sparingly, is most effective in brightening a straightforward and competent assessment of Luxembourg, Belgium, and the Netherlands. The histories of the three countries and of their colonial possessions are discussed in separate chapters; succeeding chapters describe industrial, political, and educational facets, religious conflict, recreational patterns, and the roles of the low countries in the community of nations. Maps are plentiful: language maps, maps of religious divisions, full-page relief maps, and political maps; lists of dates and of important cultural figures, a list of suggestions for further reading (divided by chapter-related topics) and an index are appended.

Ad Lindgren, Astrid (Ericsson). Dirk Lives in Holland; photographs by Anna Riwkin-Brick. Macmillan, 1963. 47p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.76 net.

A book in which the photographs predominate; they are mildly informative, fairly repetitive, and attractive—since they record the activities of a charming child. The text is slight, leaning heavily on the pictures; the style is simple—occasionally having a note that seems artificially ingenuous. Little about the story gives any flavor of the background of the Netherlands—nicely provided by the photographs—but focuses on Dirk's desire for a bicycle and his attainment of it at the close of the book.

Ad Lippman, Peter J. Plunkety Plunk; written and illus. by Peter J. Lippman. K-2 Ariel, 1963. 48p. \$3.25.

A nonsense story, cheerfully irreverent in tone, with illustrations that are handsome and ornate in design, but a bit too busy. A blacksmith who loved wrought iron was so upset when his neighbor bought an automatic furnace that he accidentally locked himself into a large birdcase he was making. He was rescued when a playmate of his son's, a dinosaur, was pushed—along with son Stanley and a resident armadillo—by a lion; they all rolled into the cage, which crashed open. The embroidery on this plot is rambling but amusing.

M McCrea, James. The Story of Olaf; by James and Ruth McCrea. Atheneum, K-2 1964. 30p. illus. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.07 net.

Little Olaf was page boy to two brave knights who decided it was their duty to rid the land of a dragon. Feeling that it would take a dragon to kill a dragon, they obtained a

magic potion that turned them to dragons; they took it, killed the dragon, and there they were. Two dragons. Olaf bravely sprinkled them with another potion as they slept, they returned to human form, and all was well; Olaf was made a knight for his bravery. A slight tale, with illustrations that are colorful but busy, and with hand-set type that is interesting but is difficult to read. There is a small amount of humor in the turn of the plot, but the writing style is pedestrian.

SpR Mandel, Oscar. Chi Po and the Sorcerer; A Chinese Tale for Children and Philosophers; with a Chinese scroll in ink by Lo Koon-Chiu. Tuttle, 1964. 86p. \$5.

A long, rambling, sophisticated, humorous book tenuously based on the early life of a great Chinese painter of the present century; very tongue-in-cheek and digressive, the story is pseudo-philosophical, pseudo-satirical. It is best suited to an adult audience if judged by vocabulary and by level of humor, and best suited to a juvenile audience if judged by format or by subject: the boy Chi Po's adventures are much concerned with a sorcerer who turns out to be a quack. The book seems not quite right, therefore, for either audience.

R Manning-Sanders, Ruth. A Book of Giants; drawings by Robin Jacques. Dutton, 4-6 1963. 125p. \$3.50.

Eighteen stories about giants—from the folk literature of many European countries—are retold in excellent style in an attractively illustrated book. A collection that is suitable for independent reading, for reading aloud, or as a source for storytelling. Some of the tales are as familiar as "Jack and the Beanstalk," others—such as the Rumanian story, "Prince Loaf"—less well known.

M Marino, Dorothy (Bronson). Buzzy Bear in the Garden. Watts, 1963. 36p. 4-6 illus. \$2.95.

Another picture book about the small, active Buzzy; here he is sent by his mother to help father in the garden, because he has been in the way. Once in the garden, Buzzy Bear makes a series of mistakes; he pulls up plants instead of weeds, waters weeds, rakes newly-seeded ground, etcetera. Father is getting rather irritated when, at last, Buzzy goes through the routine correctly, "Then Buzzy picked some more flowers and marched right into the house, and gave them to Mother Bear." The illustrations are pleasant, the text is very slight—there seems a bit of contrivance in the error-after-error plot, since a more normal procedure would be for the paternal instruction to precede the gardening, rather than becoming annoyed with a child who made mistakes through ignorance.

R Martin, Patricia Miles. No, No, Rosina; illus. by Earl Thollander. Putnam, 2-4 1964. 48p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.68 net.

Attractively illustrated, a book about a fisherman's small daughter, with a modest and realistic storyline. Rosina was lonely when her brothers went off with Papa; she also thought that she should be allowed to go along when they went out in the Santa Rosa—she'd been named for the boat. Papa said women brought bad luck, and was annoyed when she kept asking. So Rosina stowed away. She didn't bring good luck, but she didn't bring bad luck, either. Next day the boys were busy and Papa took Rosina out all by herself. Light in mood, simply written; the text and illustrations together give a convincing picture of the fleet of small fishing boats working out of San Francisco Bay.

R Merrill, Jean. The Pushcart War; with illus. by Ronni Solbert. Scott, 1964. 5-7 223p. \$3.95.

An imaginative conception is delineated with a light touch and a good deal of crafts-

manship. In an unusual story set in the near future, the pushcart owners of New York City fight and win the war against the truckers. By 1976 the trucks are enormous, the drivers are arrogant, the traffic is completely snarled. The Pushcart Army is composed of a small, brave band of brothers—and General Anna—whose weapons are unusual and whose strategy is inspired. Although the writing style is restrained, the story has good pace, delightful ingenuous humor, bland burlesque of the social and political facts of life, and a New York atmosphere so solid you can eat it with a spoon.

R Miles, Miska. Pony in the Schoolhouse; illus. by Erik Blegvad. Atlantic-Little, 3-5 Brown, 1964. 60p. \$2.95.

Delightfully illustrated, a simply written story that has warmth and humor. The two problems in Amy's life were the long, cold walk to the one-room schoolhouse and the teasing boy who greeted her when she got there. One problem was solved when a neighbor gave Amy an elderly pony; when a blizzard came along and the teasing arch-enemy rescued the animal and brought her into the schoolhouse, it didn't seem to solve the other problem. But the next morning, Amy found that her feelings had changed: she didn't mind the teasing. One of the nicest things about this story is the fact that it doesn't succumb to the obvious; there is, for example, no high drama in the blizzard episode—neither the boy nor the pony is in imminent peril, and the children are not, after much suspense, rescued just when all seems lost, but are picked up by one of the parents quite promptly.

Ad Molloy, Anne Stearns (Baker). The Mystery of the Pilgrim Trading Post; illus. 5-7 by Floyd James Torbert. Hastings House, 1964. 160p. \$3.25.

Jonas, Will, and Lettie are three young cousins who come to visit their adult cousin, Mary Pete, whose invitation had been given as a last chance to stay in the old homestead before it was torn down. The youngsters are determined to prove that the spot had been a trading place so that it could be declared a national shrine and preserved. By the time the lovely old house is saved, the three visitors have helped mend a lover's quarrel, have found the proof of the fact that the home site had been used by Pilgrims, have been involved in a mystery concerning a smuggler; there is, in fact, a plethora of sub-plots. Characterization is good, the dialogue is natural, and the Maine coast atmosphere is excellent; the cluttered storyline does, however, weaken the book.

M Moncure, Jane Belk. Flip; The True Story of a Dairy Farm Goat; photographs 4-7 by Morris H. Jaffe. Ariel, 1964. 43p. \$3.25.
yrs.

A description of a small boy and his pet Nubian goat. As in most books that are built on a series of photographs, much of the text here seems adapted to the pictures and is therefore forced. The book has no real story line, some of the captions simply amplifying cute photographs—"The mischievous Flip did not want to be put in the barn with the other kids! Instead she climbed up on the barn roof!"—a technique suited better to the younger child, whereas some of the text—for example, a page on the Nubian breed—is more suitable for the middle grades reader, so that the book seems not to be right for either audience.

Ad Montgomerie, Norah, ed. To Read and to Tell; An Anthology of Stories for 4-6 Children chosen and edited by Norah Montgomerie; with drawings by Margery Gill. Arco, 1964. 272p. \$4.50.

A fairly extensive anthology of stories, most of which are excellent for telling to somewhat younger children. The book is divided, usefully, into sections of fairy tales, animal fables, first tales to tell, etcetera; most of the stories are quite brief—occasionally to the point of seeming valueless—the tale of Narcissus being covered in half a page. A useful source, but some of the stories that are not from a traditional source are told in a flat style, as in the story of Buffalo Bill. "He was still only twenty-one

years old when the Civil War ended, and it was then that he volunteered to hunt buffalo. It is said that he killed over 4,000 of these enormous animals and that he made a fortune selling their carcasses to the Kansas Pacific Railway for meat." Sources are cited; an author-title index is appended.

M 6-9 Morgan, Barbara Ellen. Hand of the King; illus. by Howard Simon. Random House, 1963. 176p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$2.99 net.
An adventure story set on the banks of the Euphrates, in the land of Mari, in 1750 B.C. Zak and his friend La'um are instrumental in helping re-establish the prince of Mari by aiding in the revolt against the Assyrian tyrants who rule their land. The period details are interesting, but the story depends heavily on cliff-hanging situations to give it momentum. The storyline is adequate, but it is too laden with incident; characters are not convincing, and the writing style is heavy.

Ad K-2 Ness, Evaline. Exactly Alike; written and illus. by Evaline Ness. Scribner, 1964. 29p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.31 net.
With attractive turn-of-the-century illustrations, the story of a small girl badgered by four younger brothers. Elizabeth couldn't tell one of the rowdy four from another . . . until one of her toys suggested that she scrutinize the boys more carefully; she finally saw small distinguishing features, but she still couldn't put the right name to each boy. She offered them her dearest treasure to tell her which was which—they refused. She gave them the toys anyway, realizing that true giving did not mean bargaining—and the boys came to her and told their names, and they all hugged each other. The story has a message, but it is weakened by the fact that the real and the fanciful elements don't quite mesh. The picture-book format is suitable for the intended read-aloud audience, but some of the writing (both in vocabulary and in the style) seems better suited to a middle-grades reader: "William was extremely pleased with Elizabeth. He called her a clever girl and said he was glad her mystery was solved. Now they could talk about something other than her extraordinary problem."

R 3-5 Newman, Shirlee Petkin. About the People Who Run Your City; by Shirlee Petkin Newman and Diane Finn Sherman; illus. by James David Johnson. Melmont, 1963. 47p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$1.88 net.
A good overview of the structure and operation of municipal government; much like Wolfe's Let's Go to a City Hall (Putnam, 1959) in the material covered, although there is less emphasis here on the executive functions. The writing is crisp, the text organized into brief topics. An index is appended.

SpC 6-9 Niggli, Josefina. A Miracle for Mexico; paintings by Alejandro Rangel Hidalgo. New York Graphic Society, 1964. 179p. \$4.95.
Centered on the story of the Virgin of Guadalupe, a junior historical novel set in Mexico in 1531, illustrated with several full-color paintings with intricate and exquisite detail. A fictional character, young Martin Aguilar, is embroiled in the struggle between Indians and Spanish in the newly-conquered land. Martin plays a part in the revelations that lead to the miraculous appearance of the portrait of the Brown Virgin. While the book will be of particular interest to Roman Catholics, it is improbable that it will appeal to the general reader: first, because the acceptance of the miracle is extended to the author's notes: ". . . the language he thought in would have been his native tongue. Therefore, the Virgin would not have spoken to him in Spanish." Second, the book is far too long for the age of the reader for whom it is intended, too long and too slowly detailed. The writing style is good, the historical background is wonderfully vivid and convincingly drawn.

M K-2 Palmer, Mary B. The No-Sort-of-Animal; pictures by Agner Graboff. Houghton, 1964. 48p. Trade ed. \$3.; Library ed. \$2.90 net.

A picture book with highly stylized illustrations, excellent in design but sophisticated enough to be more interesting to adults than it is appealing to children. The story has a light touch and a pleasant simplicity of style, but has a story line that has been used many times: the animal who is dissatisfied with his appearance, tries several changes, and finally accepts with relief his true and original form.

Ad Peet, William Bartlett. Ella; written and illus. by Bill Peet. Houghton, 1964.
K-2 48p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.07 net.

A picture book with lively illustrations and a rhyming text tells the story of Ella, the egotistical elephant who lost her circus while sulking. Held as an overworked captive by a surly farmer, Ella came to realize that she was spoiled; when she broke away and rejoined her circus the following spring, all hands were delighted by Ella's new cooperative behavior. The book has a light humor and the metre and rhyme of the text are good; the plot is a bit thin and overextended.

R Plate, Robert. The Dinosaur Hunters; Othniel C. Marsh and Edward D. Cope.
8- McKay, 1964. 281p. \$4.95.

A dual biography, written in lively style and objective tone. Othniel Marsh and Edward Cope were nineteenth century paleontologists whose dramatic finds, enthusiastic publicity, and well-aired controversy kept fossil-hunting in the public eye for a quarter of a century. The book gives an excellent picture of the state of scientific research in this country in the 1870's and 1880's, excellent portrayals of Marsh and Cope, and a general view of the national scene as background—entertaining as well as informative. A divided bibliography and a good index are appended.

Ad Polk, Emily. Delhi Old and New; illus. by Emil Weiss. Rand McNally, 1963.
6-9 144p. (Cities of the World Series). \$2.75.

An interesting book, profusely illustrated by beautifully-detailed black and white drawings. The text gives a great deal of information, but the material might be better organized; the pages seem crowded with details, fascinating and colorful in themselves but following in such close sequence that they are difficult to assimilate. An excellent relative index is appended; as in other books in this series, several pages at the close of the book are devoted to maps of sections of the city in which it is interesting to walk or drive.

R Pollard, Madeleine A. The Queen's Blessing; illus. by Betty Fraser. Holt,
6-9 1964. 175p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.27 net.

A dramatic adventure story of Scotland in the eleventh century. Merca, eleven, is one of the many homeless and starving orphans of Danish descent whose homes had been ravaged by King Malcolm's men. With her small brother, Merca is captured and sold into slavery. Escaping, the two children are taken into the court of the gentle Queen Margaret; Merca is horrified when she finds that her beloved Margaret is the hated Malcolm's bride. She vows revenge, but by the time she has opportunity, she realizes that she has come to understand the king and love him. Well-paced and smoothly written; the background details are vividly pictured and the characterization is excellent.

Ad Rice, Tamara Talbot. Finding Out About the Early Russians. Lothrop, 1964.
7-10 168p. illus. \$3.50.

A survey of the diverse and complex peoples of Russian history, from the third millennium B.C. to the time of Peter the Great. Much of the material is based on archaeological discoveries; the emphasis in text and pictures is on art and artifacts, although other aspects of historical significance are not ignored. The book gives a great deal of information authoritatively, but its usefulness is lessened by the rather soggy and detail-clogged writing. An index is appended.

- R Sachs, Marilyn. Amy Moves In; illus. by Judith Gwyn Brown. Doubleday, 1964.
4-6 189p. \$2.95.

A good middle-grades story, set in a heterogeneous neighborhood in the Bronx and apparently—although the year is not specified—set a decade or two ago. Amy Stern is a bit nervous about the new fourth grade class and the strangeness of the neighborhood, but she soon makes friends. Her problem is that she isn't quite easy about some of the girls, especially the way they behave to Rosa Ferrera. Amy's worst fault is telling fibs, and she finds herself unhappily guilty when one of her lies victimizes Rosa. The way in which Amy solves her problem is described with sympathy and realism; the author's perceptive handling of relationships is, in fact, particularly good. The writing style has vitality, the Stern family is pictured with enough humor to balance the sentiment, and the Bronx neighborhood atmosphere rings true.

- R Sanchez-Silva, Jose Maria. The Boy and the Whale; tr. by Michael Heron; illus.
4-5 by Margery Gill. McGraw-Hill, 1964. 80p. \$2.25.

Translated from the Spanish, a gentle and charming story about a small boy's imaginative play and the ways in which he translates the events of his real life into his world of fancy. The Boy clings to his whale, the companion who rides in his pocket but who can grow full size, take The Boy to visit whale relatives in the sea, comfort The Boy when his beloved grandmother dies, or spur him on when he is challenged to his first fight at school. The style is simple and potent, the relationships are perceptive—that between The Boy and his grandmother especially so; The Boy's imaginings are psychologically sound, and the integration of reality and fancy is wonderfully smooth.

- R Schatz, Letta. Taiwo and her Twin; illus. by Elton Fax. McGraw-Hill, 1964.
4-6 128p. \$2.95.

Set in a Yoruba village of West Africa, a story that has an appealing simplicity of style, tight construction, and authenticity of background details. The people of the village are building their first school, but Taiwo is told that she cannot go to school: there is not enough money for her to accompany her twin brother, and—her father says—girls do not need education. Taiwo's determination and her zeal finally enable her to reach her goal. The picture of tribal mores and of the adaptations to contemporary life are convincing; the inter-familial relationships, although bound by tradition, are so sympathetically presented that they have a universality with which the reader can identify.

- R Selsam, Millicent (Ellis). Birth of a Forest; illus. with pictures by Barbara
4-6 Wolff and with photographs. Harper, 1964. 45p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library
ed. \$2.57 net.

Excellent science writing: lucid, simple, accurate, and well-organized, with no extraneous material and no popularization. The illustrations are delicate in technique and meticulous in detail. Mrs. Selsam uses a midwestern pond as an example of the stages in the slow evolution of pond to forest; she suggests some easily-observable phenomena for the nature student. The text is specific enough to be used in a beginning botany course, yet informal enough to be an enticing introduction to the outdoors for the amateur.

- M Sherman, Allan. Allan Sherman's Hello Mudduh, Hello Fadduh!; pictures by
3-4 Syd Hoff. Harper, 1964. 28p. Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.
Syd Hoff's cartoons are delightful in a book about an unhappy child at camp, but the text is a bit thin. The letter that describes the horrors of camp (greatly exaggerated and reported on the first homesick day) ends with the blithe announcement that the hail has stopped, games have started, parents will please disregard the letter. Great appeal for adults, and some appeal for some children; the humor doesn't seem, for either level, to have the impact that it does in performance.

Ad Smaridge, Norah. Impatient Jonathan; pictures by Margo Locke. Abingdon, K-2 1964. 29p. \$1.75.

An object lesson in rhyme, the message palatable because it isn't masked and is treated lightly. The rhyming is good, the metre falters occasionally, the illustrations are of average quality. Jonathan ate in a hurry, dressed in a hurry, did his school-work in a hurry—and therefore not well; he played in a hurry, with the result that he was rough and nobody wanted to play with him. When, lonely, he went into a pet shop and was ejected because his impatient behavior frightened the animals, Jonathan knew that he must reform. In an about-face (a bit too quick) Jonathan behaved with patience. Result: good work at school, friends, parental approval, and a puppy.

Ad Snyder, Zilpha Keatley. Season of Ponies; drawings by Alton Raible. Atheneum, 5-6 1964. 133p. \$3.25.

A story that is written on two levels—realistic and fanciful—with a dénouement in which the solution at one level depends on acknowledgment of the other. It doesn't quite come off. Motherless Pamela lives, not too happily, with two aunts; lonely, the child keeps hoping that her father will take her to live with him. She meets a strange boy who has a herd of beautiful ponies: together Pamela and Ponyboy have some weird adventures, and in the course of this the girl learns a song, a song of strength and goodness. At a moment of decision, she sings her song in her mind; her father "hears," and decides to take Pamela away from the aunts. Some of the writing in the story is excellent, both in exploring relationships in the real situation and in describing the misty and fanciful events in the imaginary sequences. The two facets do not fully mesh, nor do they quite stand alone.

R Splaver, Sarah. Your Career If You're Not Going to College. Messner, 1963. 9-12 223p. \$3.95.

A practical and comprehensive book, well organized and crisply written, with a most useful occupations index. The author discusses evaluation of one's own interests, abilities, and academic record; she gives advice on preparation for and choice of a non-academic field, with specific and useful suggestions on job-hunting. The major portion of the text is devoted to brief descriptions of different kinds of jobs: the various kinds of government positions, agricultural possibilities, the many clerical jobs for the high-school graduate, etcetera. Appended are, in addition to the index cited above, a divided bibliography, a divided list of sources of information, a list of state apprenticeship councils, and a list of the regional offices of the United States Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training.

Ad Sterling Publishing Company. Finland in Pictures. Sterling, 1963. 64p. illus. 6-9 Trade ed. \$1.; Library ed. \$1.99 net.

A useful book, not comprehensive in scope but giving adequate coverage and accurate information. The photographs are good, but they are not always related to the text on the same page; the text is printed in double columns of quite small print. The material is well-organized; no index is included, but the topic headings in each section (the land, the government, the people, history, and economy and industry) are listed in the table of contents.

R Zolotow, Charlotte (Shapiro). A Rose, A Bridge, and A Wild Black Horse; pictures by Uri Shulevitz. Harper, 1964. 26p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

A read-aloud book with slight but endearing text, and with illustrations of considerable charm, the two sharing a light and congruous humor. A small boy tells his smaller sister of the wildly imaginative, tender, daring, and fantastic things that he is going to do for her when he grows up. After this extravagant catalog of derring-do, a nice surprise ending.

Reading for Teachers

- Burton, William and Ilika, Joseph. "Some Arguments about Reading." Education, March 1964.
- Butler, George. "Using the Elementary School Library." Education, December 1963.
- Dunning, Stephen. "Sequence and Literature: Some Teaching Facts." High School Journal, October 1963.
- Fries, Charles. Linguistics and Reading. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1963. 265p. \$5.
- Gans, Roma. Common Sense in Teaching Reading. Bobbs-Merrill, 1963. 298p. \$4.
- Harris, Albert, ed. Readings on Reading Instruction. McKay, 1963. 480p. \$3.95.
- Hildreth, Gertrude. "Early Writing as an Aid to Reading." Elementary English, January 1963.
- Langman, Muriel P. "Set, Attention, and Purpose in Reading." Education, May 1963.
- McGoldrick, James H. "Using Novels in History Class." The Social Studies, March 1963.
- Madden, Edgar. "Popularizing Reading in the Small High School." The English Journal, January 1963.
- Marshall, Sybil. An Experiment in Education. Cambridge University Press, 1963. 222p. \$4.75.
- Mater, Wilma S. "The Librarian as a Partner in the Planning." The National Elementary School Principal, May 1963.
- Maynard, Glenn. "Value of Twenty-five Cent Books for Independent Recreational Reading." Peabody Journal of Education, September 1963.
- National Conference for the Social Studies. Guiding the Social Studies Reading of High School Students. N.C.S.S. 1963. 96p. \$1.50. Stock order number 498-150-22.
- Peabody College for Teachers. Free and Inexpensive Learning Materials, 12th biennial ed. P.C.T. 1964. 276p. \$2. Order from the Division of Surveys and Field Services, Nashville, Tenn. 37203.

